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Agenda items 55, 65, 65 (bb), 66 (e) and 71

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

General and complete disarmament

General and complete disarmament: establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Letter dated 7 March 2005 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Tashkent statement of representatives of Central Asian States on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, adopted at the United Nations-sponsored meeting on the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone, held on 8 February 2005 in Tashkent (see annex).

We would be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 55, 65, 65 (bb), 66 (e), 71, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yerzhan **Kazykhanov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Nurbek **Jeenbaev**
Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic
to the United Nations

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(*Signed*) Rashid **Alimov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Aksoltan **Ataeva**
Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Alisher **Vohidov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan
to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 7 March 2005 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Tashkent statement of representatives of Central Asian States on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

(7-9 February 2005)

The five Central Asian States, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan:

Recalling the Almaty Declaration of the Heads of State of the Central Asian States, adopted on 28 February 1997; the statement adopted at Tashkent on 15 September 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the five States of the region; the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 52/38 S, of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A, of 4 December 1998, 55/33 W, of 20 November 2000 and 57/69, of 22 November 2002, and its decisions 58/518, of 8 December 2003 and 59/513, of 3 December 2004, entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia"; and the Communiqué of the Consultative Meeting of the Experts of the Central Asian Countries, the Nuclear-Weapon States and the United Nations, adopted at Bishkek on 9 July 1998,

Noting that in the final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), the Parties expressed support for the intention and commitment of the five Central Asian States to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in their region, welcomed the practical steps taken towards implementation of their initiative and also noted with satisfaction the substantial progress made by the Central Asian States in drawing up and agreeing on a draft treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes significantly to the maintenance and consolidation of peace and security at the global and regional levels,

Commending substantive progress having been made by their efforts with the support of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General, the Department for Disarmament Affairs, the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, the Office of Legal Affairs and the International Atomic Energy Agency in the process of drawing up and agreeing on a draft treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Reaffirming the importance of an agreement reached in Samarkand in September 2002 on a treaty and a protocol on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

1. *Welcome* the outcome of the Tashkent meeting held from 7 to 9 February 2005 that finalized the draft treaty with the recommendations from the International

Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Office for Legal Affairs and comments from the five nuclear-weapon States;

2. *Note with appreciation* the support of all States, including the five nuclear-weapon States, for the initiative of the five Central Asian States establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region;

3. *Reaffirm* their strong commitments to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia that will contribute to nuclear disarmament, peace and security in the region;

4. *Urge* all States, particularly the nuclear-weapon States, to fully cooperate with the five Central Asian States in implementing the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty;

5. *Reiterate* their earnest desire to sign the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty as soon as possible.

For the Republic of Kazakhstan

For the Kyrgyz Republic

For the Republic of Tajikistan

For Turkmenistan

For the Republic of Uzbekistan